

10/10/70  
F B I Project 8

Colonel White

I asked the Office of Training to informally advise SACSA of our cancellation of Project USEFUL in order that your letter not be a total surprise. Contact has been made with Lt. Colonel Bert Baker, SACSA, who expressed full understanding of our position.

Recommend your signature on  
the attached letter.

25X1A



DD/S:RLB:maq (8 Dec 70)

Distribution:

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DD/S 70-4751: Proposed ltr for Brig. Gen. Donald D. Blackburn fr L. K. White  
dtd 10 Dec 70 re discontinuance of Project USEFUL

201570-4751

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**Brigadier General Donald D. Blackburn  
Deputy Director for Counterinsurgency  
and Special Activities/SACSA  
The Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301**

Dear General Blackburn:

During the past year we have undertaken an extensive evaluation of CIA's orientation and training programs with a view to reducing duplication and ensuring that those programs meet current needs. This review has led us to the conclusion that Project USEFUL no longer fulfills the function for which it was designed some 16 years ago. In addition, it duplicates the JCS/DIA program and the numerous orientation, briefing and liaison channels that we have developed since the mid-1950's. We therefore have decided to discontinue Project USEFUL and increase the number of participants in the JCS/DIA program to accommodate the JCS/SACSA nominees who would otherwise have attended Project USEFUL.

The JCS/DIA program is of course only one of many orientation and briefing mechanisms established to meet our mutual needs. Your Project HELPPUL fills this role. Agency representatives and their counterparts at the various military commands and schools in the United States and abroad perform this function. The many formal and informal liaison channels between Agency headquarters and DOD commands cover specific and general interests as do our liaison arrangements at field stations. During FY 1970 our Office of Training participated in training some 5,000 military officers at facilities ranging from the Defense Intelligence School and Fort Holabird through the various senior military colleges and Military Assistance schools.

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In sum, the abundance of effective channels we have for coordination and cooperation appear to us to make USEFUL no longer necessary. In addition to increasing the number of openings in the JCS/DIA program we shall seek to improve the use of existing orientation and liaison channels by stressing these relationships in that program and seeking new ways to meet any new needs for exchanges.

Sincerely,

*LSJ*  
L. K. White  
Executive Director

25X1A  
ORIGINATOR:  3 December 70  
HUGH T. CUNNINGHAM  
Director of Training

25X1A  
CONCUR:  09 DEC 1970  
Deputy Director for Support

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7 December 1970

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Note for: [redacted]  
25X1A  
[redacted] talked with Lt. Colonel Bert  
Baker, our point of contact in SACSA on Project  
USEFUL. He told Col. Baker all the details in  
this letter and said that the Agency was considering  
giving up USEFUL.

Col. Baker understood our position and  
indicated to Tony that he didn't think it would cause  
any flack.

*W.M.*  
WEB